

Piano Concerto: Through a Passage Of Time

Composed by Jon Mortimer

Through A Passage Of Time is an autobiographical work composed with the idea of expressing feelings, experiences and influences over the 20 years since I've been living in Hamburg.

It is a virtuoso piece for solo piano and full orchestra which shows extremes of emotion and styles. It is an impressive, large scale work with much rhythmic and emotional drive. For the soloist it is technically demanding but approachable to play and lies well under the fingers. Melodic, lush orchestrations, drawing influences from contemporary classical music to jazz and latin rhythms, it tells a story through descriptive music and is a traditional concerto in that it gives the soloist many moments to shine and to interact with full orchestra.

1st Movement: A Fantasy For Times Ahead

This Movement depicts a positive feeling of looking forward to a new era which promises happiness, creativity and discovery. It closes a door on a chapter in life which must change, to bring a feeling of self confidence, hope and release.

It is a fantasy in the sense of an undefined journey, a quest, where chance and opportunity are the main motivations. The Movement therefore has distinct themes but an undefined form other than it finishes with a recapitulation of the opening theme.

2nd Movement: Two Faces From A Shadowed Past

The initial positiveness is destroyed and brings a crisis resulting in deep sadness, confusion and emotional pain. The Movement starts with a motive, a recurring theme to suggest this crisis. A low point impossible to escape from. There follows sections of musical anguish, turmoil, isolation, awakening and finally joy. Each section returns to the crisis theme, until finally it transforms itself into a positive form. It is not until the very last note that this dark phase is finally and clearly resolved with a sense of peace, contentment and a new found maturity

3rd Movement: The Present Dilemma

The final Movement begins with a wake up call to depict new, fresh and exciting times. The dilemma is which way to go now and is musically depicted with ever changing styles, themes, and driving rhythms.

Self confident and fun, it is a finale to highlight the soloist who interacts with and pushes the orchestra in a race to the finish.